FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, in a statement broadcast by Tehran radio on 3 February, declared that if threatened Iraqi raids are carried out, "all industrial centers of Iraq will become targets for the Islamic combatants." He requested that "Iraqi brethren and foreign workers and experts" keep away from these targets. The prime minister also denounced the "baseless propaganda that Islamic combatants have shelled Iraqi residential areas." He noted as "most interesting" the fact that this threat had been issued "simultaneously" with the U.S. assistant secretary of state's visit to Iraq. The prime minister warned that Iran will resort to "any available means" to foil Iraqi "adventures" and added that it has the "means and determination" to "shake the foundations of the palaces in Baghdad."

In a separate development, Iraqi planes bombed a Cypriot cargo ship in the Gulf near Bandar-e Khomeyni, AFP reported citing a source in the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry.

Iraq

President Saddam Husayn and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Middle East and South Asian affairs, to discuss the current Arab situation and other international issues of common interest, INA reported. Murphy also briefed the president on U.S. efforts in Lebanon, Voice of the Masses radio added.

Lebanon

Military/Security Situation — Violent clashes between the Army and the opposition continued throughout the night in Beirut's southern suburb and in the mountain area, Beirut radio reported. The Army succeeded in regaining its positions in the southern suburb with one soldier killed and five wounded, the radio said. Civilian casualties totaled 10 dead and 35 wounded with 2 citizens being killed by shells in the city of Zahlah, according to reports by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. A cease-fire agreed for 3 February did not hold and Beirut once again came under shell fire, including areas near the airport, the Presidential Palace, and the U.S. ambassador's residence in B'abda, Beirut radio reported.

Political Issues, Contacts — Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus on 2 February in the presence of the U.S. ambassador to discuss the military escalation in Lebanon, Radio Monte Carlo stated. Junblatt arrived in Tripoli on 3 February and met with former Prime minister Rashid Karami, Beirut radio reported.

Saudi Position Confirmation — In reply to Foreign Minister Elie Salim's inquiry about Crown Prince 'Abdallah's statement on the need for U.S. Marines to withdraw from Lebanon, Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal said that his country's position on Lebanon is "firm" and has "not changed," Beirut radio reported. The Saudi foreign minister said Prince 'Abdallah's statement "may have been distorted," the radio added.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Algeria on 2 February as part of his tour of Arab and African countries, Algiers radio reported. According to 'Arafat, the tour became necessary after the visit by the "head of the Zionist entity" to Zaire and Liberia, the radio added.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan To Meet — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will hold a "mini-summit" with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Jordan's King Husayn following his return from Africa, MENA reported citing the Paris-based *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI*.

Libyan-Tunisian Talks — Libya's Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi arrived in Tunis on 1 February for an "unannounced" visit, KUNA stated. Discussions with Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali centered on bilateral relations and the current situation in the Maghreb, Africa, and the Arab-Zionist conflict, Tunis radio reported.

Sudan

Vice President 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, in a statement to SUNA, described the 2 February attack on workers at a Chevron camp as a "continuation of conspiracies against Sudan." The "plot aims at stopping Sudan's progress," the vice president added. At-Tayyib pointed out that the attackers had "infiltrated" from Ethiopia.

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USSR's Dymshits Commends Development Efforts

BK030434 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The visiting Soviet deputy prime minister, Mr Dymshits, has commended India's efforts in achieving self-sufficiency and also in helping neighboring countries in their development. Speaking at the Visakhapatnam steel plant, he said that Indo-Soviet cooperation is reaching new heights and many projects are under way through collaboration between the two countries.

Spokesman Denies Training of Terrorists

BK021351 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] In New Delhi today, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry denied the reports appearing in the Pakistani press alleging that India is training terrorists for subversive activities in Pakistan. The reports refer to statements attributed to some police officials in Pakistan. The spokesman said these reports were fabricated and are without any foundation whatsoever.

Rajiv Gandhi: Unify Against 'External Threat'

BK030403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Congress-I general secretary, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has emphasized the need to maintain unity in view of the external threat to the country. He said Pakistan Army has recently carried out military exercises and the United States is trying to obtain bases in Sri Lanka. In view of these developments, he said, unity must be maintained at all costs. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was addressing meetings in Akhra, Bagpat, and Barot in Uttar Pradesh. He criticized the opposition for what he called encouraging dissension among people. He said extremists in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir are taking advantage of this.

Delhi Cites Zia Call for U.S. Security Pledge

BK030538 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] President Ziaul Haq has sought a guarantee from the United States for the security of Pakistan. In an interview to the American magazine *PARADE*, he said whether Pakistan receives 5 or 500 F-16 aircraft from the United States is not important, but what really matters is that the people of Pakistan should be assured that America will guarantee the security of their country. The interview has been published by the Pakistani daily *JANG* in London. General Zia pointed out that Pakistan serves most vital American interests in the Gulf, Southwest Asia, and neighboring areas.

AFP: Sri Lanka Tamil Leader Holds Talks

BK021602 Hong Kong AFP in English 1536 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 2 (AFP) — Sri Lankan Tamil leader Appapillai Amirthalingam today said his party would strive to make government-initiated talks on his country's ethnic problems in Colombo a success but would not compromise on fundamentals. The secretary-general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), representing Sri Lanka's minority Tamils, was speaking to the press here after talks with Indian Government leaders during his two-day stay in the capital.

Mr Amirthalingam today met Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao and his ministry's secretary-general Maharaj Rasgotra separately. He had a similar meeting with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's special envoy to Colombo, Gopalaswamy Parthasarathy, yesterday. He said he had briefed Indian leaders on deliberations at the recent round-table conference of all parties in Colombo, convened by President Junius Jayewardene, to solve ethnic problems in the wake of the anti-Tamil violence in Sri Lanka last July-August. Mr Amirthalingam and other leaders of his party attended the parley. Mr Amirthalingam reportedly said he was disappointed that the Colombo conference had produced no concrete results.

The TULF chief arrived here yesterday from the southern Indian city of Madras. The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency said he and some of his party colleagues would return to Colombo Sunday.

Guidelines on Treatment of Assam 'Foreigners'

BK021615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The central government today issued rules and guidelines for detection of foreigners in Assam by the tribunals under the Illegal Migrants Act of 1983. The procedure of enquiry into the cases for reference to the tribunal has been framed in such a manner that would ensure fairness. The guidelines supplement the rules in the act in the form of executive instructions to the various authorities connected with the implementation of the act. The center has also asked the state government to constitute advisory committees at the district level. These committees will be chaired by the deputy commissioners and will consist of all members of parliament and members of legislative assembly and other government nominees not exceeding six. The committee will take a general review of the work of detection of foreigners and measures to check into [word indistinct].

The position regarding the Nepali nationals has also been clarified. The Nepalese nationals who are in possession of restricted area permit do not come within the definition of illegal migrant and they stand protected.

According to the guidelines, if a tribunal determines a person to be an illegal migrant, the superintendent of police should serve an order of expulsion on him. If, in the meantime, he has preferred an appeal and it is admitted, the expulsion order will be stayed. Any expulsion order will have a time limit of 30 days to allow the person to leave the country. Under the act all those who entered into India illegally after the 25 March 1971 will be treated as foreigners and are to be detected and deported.

Out of the 20 tribunals to be set up under the act 6 have already started functioning.

Gandhi Begins Visit to Assam, Arunachal Pradesh

BK030932 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, today laid the foundation stone of Assam's permanent capital, named (Pragjotishpur), at Chandrapur, 25 km from Gauhati. The capital project is estimated to cost 2 billion rupees. Speaking on the occasion, the prime minister reiterated India's policy of peace, friendship and cooperation toward all nations in the world. She emphasized the need of mutual help and assistance among nations for their progress.

The prime minister earlier arrived at (Bhorjhar) airport on a 2-day visit to Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. She was received by the chief minsiter, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, and other officials.

A warm welcome awaits the prime minister when she arrives at Itanagar tomorrow morning. During her stay, Mrs Gandhi will lay the foundation stone of the university complex. Mrs Gandhi will address a public meeting at the parade ground at Itanagar. Before returning to New Delhi, she will also address the party workers at the Congress Bhavan.

Agitators Call for Strike

BK021623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Assam chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, has urged the people to keep away from attempts to disrupt normalcy in the state. In a broadcast this evening, he said some organizations in the state are trying to create tension by calling programs of bundhs [strike] and road blockade. They are not happy at the return of normalcy in the state. Mr Saikia has asked the people to remain alert against their attempts to disrupt normal life. The chief minister also dispelled the fears that tribals and others will be evicted from their lands for the building of the permanent capital.

The Assam Government has strengthened the security arrangements all over the state in view of 36-hour road blockade called by the agitators from tomorrow morning. Steps have also been taken to maintain the movement of vehicles throughout the state. Several organizations have opposed the road blockade call. The state government has also declared a local holiday for government offices and educational institutions in Gauhati tomorrow to enable the employees and students to attend the foundation-laying ceremony of the new capital.

AFP: Tripura Extremists Ambush Border Forces

BK021340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1305 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 2 (AFP) — Four persons were killed when extremists ambushed a para-military border security force [BSF] group at a village in a district of the northeastern border state of Tripura last night, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today. The victims were three BSF men and a porter, PTI said, quoting official reports received at Agartala, capital of the border state.

Describing the action as the "first major attack against security forces this year", the reports said the incident occurred within a 35-km (22 miles) stretch on the thickly-wooded Indo-Bangladesh border which the extremists had been using as a "safe passage zone".

Reports, quoting preliminary information, said the 12-member BSF party was surprised by the well-armed extremist gang belonging to the Tripura National Volunteers (TNV). The gang reportedly used sophisticated weapons, including automatic ones, during the attack.

Official sources in Agartala believed that the extremists were now desperate in the face of stepped up vigilance by security forces after their successive raids on forest beat offices on January 11-12 in the north district in which three persons were killed. They were also demoralised in the wake of large-scale surrender from their ranks during the last six months, PTI said.

The government has already banned several extremists organisations in the sensitive northeastern border region under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Radio Reports Attack

BK030316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] In north Tripura, four Border Security Force [BSF] personnel were killed by extremists on Wednesday. A senior BSF official told our Agartala correspondent that a BSF patrol party was attacked near Samanu.

Karnataka Farmers Cancel Planned Agitation

BK021625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] In Karnataka the state-wide rasta and rail roko [road and train blockade] agitation by the state farmers association has been called off.

The president of the association, Mr (H.S. Rudrapa), said in Shimoga today that the decision has been taken because the agitation was causing innumerable hardships to the common man and antisocial elements had started exploiting the situation.

3 Arrested in Murder of Former Manipur Minister

BK030322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] In Manipur the president of the newly formed Progressive Independent Bloc, Mrs (Someharam), and its two leaders, Mr (I. Khating) and Mr (A. Nigthal), have been arrested in (Ukrul) area. According to reports, their arrest is in connection with the murder of the former chief minister, Mr Yangmaso Shaiza, on Monday.

'Terrorist' Says India Trains Al-Zulfiqar Group

BK011313 Hong Kong AFP in English 1124 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, Feb 1 (AFP) — India is training Pakistani terrorists in a New Delhi camp, police here alleged after interrogating members of an anti-government terrorist group.

Members of the "Al Zulfiqar organization" were arrested recently in connection with a murder case in Karachi. During interrogation, they revealed they had been trained in a camp in the Pahar-Gunj area of New Delhi where they were supplied with Soviet-made weapons before returning to Pakistan with assignments to kill prominent personalities, police said.

Police said one man, Ayaz Samoo, confessed to the September 1982 assassination of pro-government politician Zahoorul Hasa Ghopali in Karachi. Police said he told them the Pahar-Gunj training camp was manned by Indian officials and that Pakistani trainees were lodged in a five-star hotel in New Delhi.

Ayaz Samoo is to be tried by a special military court, police said.

Yaqub Khan Comments on Egypt ICO Readmission

BK020359 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said that the readmission of Egypt to the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] is a matter of great satisfaction. He was talking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport on his return home this morning from Morocco at the end of the ICO committee's visit to Cairo. The ICO committee had undertaken this visit in the light of the Casablanca Islamic summit conference's resolution on Egypt's readmission to the ICO.

In reply to a question, the foreign minister said the readmission of Egypt to ICO will reinforce the process for establishing peace in the Middle East.

In reply to another question, he said the role palyed by Pakistan in connection with Egypt's readmission has been appreciated not only by the Islamic summit conference during the debate on this issue, but also by Egypt as well as other countries. He said Pakistan's current stand on the Middle East is in complete conformity with its stand in the past.

Economic Cooperation Agreement Signed With SFRY

BK021648 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Pakistan and Yugoslavia today signed in Islamabad an agreement on economic cooperation and expansion of bilateral trade. The agreement was reached at the conclusion of the fourth session of the Pakistan-Yugoslavia joint ministerial commission, which lasted 3 days.

Under the agreement, several areas have been identified for economic, technical, and industrial cooperation, and appropriate steps have already been taken to develop bilateral trade on a more balanced level. Under the agreement, an experts committee will also be set up which will determine the modalities for assessing the feasibility of joint ventures on agro-based industries.

Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, who signed the agreement on behalf of Pakistan, said the agreement will prove very useful in opening new avenues of cooperation between the two countries in the future.

Yugoslav Coordination Minister Mandic signed the agreement on behalf of his country. He described the talks between the two countries as very successful. The Yugoslav minister also offered Pakistani students courses on water management, engineering, crop irrigation, primary health care planning and management, fishing, and many other subjects.

Maldives' Gayoom Holds News Conference, Departs

BK030819 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom has commended the process of Islamization in Pakistan, and said his country will benefit from Pakistan's experience in this regard. Addressing a news conference in Karachi this morning at the conclusion of his visit to Pakistan, he said he has requested Pakistan to help his country benefit from the work — such as the drafting of laws and studies undertaken for enforcement of the Islamic system in Pakistan.

On bilateral economic cooperation, the Maldives president said a delegation from his country will soon visit Pakistan for detailed discussions on ways to increase bilateral trade and promote economic relations. A similar Pakistani delegation will later visit the Maldives for that purpose. He said his country will also welcome investment from Pakistan. Mr Gayoom said during his stay in Pakistan he had detailed exchanges of views on ways and means to promote bilateral relations.

Concerning the Afghanistan problem, the Maldives president paid tribute to Pakistan, which has been observing patience and restraint despite provocations from the other side. He said he has had talks on this issue and his sympathies are with Pakistan. He regretted the recent bombing by Afghan MIG aircraft which killed a number of people.

Responding to a question, he said the Maldives fully supports the call for making the Indian Ocean a nulcear free zone.

He thanked the Pakistani Government and people for their grand hospitality during his stay in Pakistan and said his visit will further consolidate bilateral relations under the Islamic spirit.

The Maldives president was given a very warm sendoff when he left Karachi for home this morning. Sind Governor Lieutenant General S.M. Abbasi, provincial ministers, councillors, members of consulates, and high civil and military officials saw them off at the airport.

DAWN Comments on Trade Prospects With India

GF272018 Karachi DAWN in English 23 Jan 84 p 7

[Editorial: "Indo-Pakistan Trade Prospects"]

[Text] The India-Pakistan subcommissions on economic matters, trade, information and travel have concluded their deliberations in Islamabad and New Delhi on a seemingly encouraging note.

The decisions taken by the subcommissions which met in the Indian capital should, if implemented in the right manner and spirit by both sides, facilitate the exchange of visits in the fields of sports and culture and promote cooperation in tourism, archaeology and archives. The protocol on group tourism, the text of which was finalized by the concerned subcommission, points to the willingness of both governments to expand the area of non-political cooperation.

The decisions taken at New Delhi are important because they have a direct bearing on the "atmospherics" of India-Pakistan relations. The suggestions relating to enhanced cooperation in the fields of agriculture, railways, health, industry, shipping, telecommunications, post, and science and technology made by the subcommission on economic matters also deserve to be taken immediate note of by the governments of the two countries, since they have implications not only for their bilateral ties but also for their respective economies. Some of the measures announced — such as the decision to set up a working group consisting of the sectaries of planning and two senior officials of the planning commissions of both countries to formulate suggestions for economic cooperation — could be regarded as an important step in the right direction. The decisions on inter-state telecommunications are also welcome. The public interest in the two countries has been served by the decision to allow passengers traveling between India and Pakistan to buy tickets in their own currencies to and from seven designated railway stations. Divided families will greatly welcome this facility.

The joint statement signed by the subcommission on trade reflects the desire of the two governments to further improve their commercial links. The decisions to make all possible efforts to meet each other's requirements of essential commodities in cases of unforeseen shortages, and to exchange market intelligence regarding commodities of common interest in their trade with third countries, are significant.

The two sides are competitors in the world market in a number of commodities. Unfortunately, more often than not they have conducted this competition in an unhealthy manner and both have suffered as a consequence. It would be interesting to observe how, after this new agreement, the two would shape their trade policies with third countries with regard to competing commodities. Since they would now be exchanging market intelligence, they should be able to expand their respective shares of markets without hurting each other in the process.

Closer technical cooperation in the production of items of export between the two countries should enable them to improve their respective foreign trade both quantitatively and qualitatively. It was probably with reference to these aspects of the agreement that the leader of the Indian trade team observed that the agreed upon points would prove to be a model for other countries of South Asia for mutual cooperation. We share his hope, but would add that this agreement would become a model for others only if it is seen to benefit the two parties equally.

That the subcommission on trade could not do more than it did to provide for trade expansion between India and Pakistan should be seen in the context of the peculiar limitations imposed by their respective national economic aspirations. India has been following a policy of import substitution since its very inception, requiring it to maintain a very restricted list of import items. On the other hand, Islamabad has followed a liberal import policy in recent years. But it is genuinely apprehensive that India, with its more developed economy, could pose a real threat to Pakistan's industrial interests if New Delhi is allowed to trade more freely with Islamabad. Hence, the joint statement noted, "In the context of increasing its trade with India, the Pakistan side, inter alia, reiterated its concern for affording protection to its industry." On the other hand, India — though better placed economically — could not accord a special status to Pakistani exports while maintaining its restricted import list.

This is a complex situation. But perhaps there is a way out. The annual average value of the last four years' exports and imports between the two countries could be taken as a basis, and the two could then embark on a five-year plan to trade expansion at a fixed rate, with the transactions being carried out in local currencies. The close proximity of the two neighbours and the large degree of complementarity of their market demands make it only logical for them to further develop their commercial links.

In the end, one should not forget that there are many a twists and turns to the relationship between India and Pakistan. The overall picture is highly susceptible to fluctuation. And if seen against the backdrop of developments in the political relationship of the two countries in the recent past, it is plain that the deliberations of the four subcommissions could not have achieved more than they have.

AFGHANISTAN

Security Forces Seize Rebel Weapons, Ammunition

LD022055 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] BAKHTAR reports that as a result of an operation carried out by security forces recently in Qarah Bagh District, Kabul Province, one rocket launcher, two Egyptian and Chinese Kalashnikovs, and a large quantity of rebel propaganda leaflets were seized. A food store and an equipment depot were destroyed.

In a successful operation carried out by Security Forces in the Marmol and Shah (Jan) Districts, Balkh Province, they seized 1 heavy machine gun, a number of assorted American, Egyptian, and Pakistani weapons and 1,700 rounds of ammunition.

According to another report, in an operation recently carried out in the (Pilam), (Chaghatam), (Doghra), (Dastagir), and [name indistinct] villages, Enjil District, Herat Province, a number of weapons and equipment and a large quantity of assorted weapons and propaganda leaflets were seized.

SPA Reports on Fighting in Konduz City

LD022312 Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Islamabad, feb 2, SPA — Nearly 20 Afghan communist party and military officers were killed by mujahidin on January 17 in Konduz city in northern Afghanistan close to the Soviet borders, unofficial AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS reported here today.

The agency said the communist casualties took place while a regime conference was attacked by resistance and mortar shells started falling in the area.

On the other hand, four Soviet soldiers were killed and a tank and a truck destroyed during an ambush launched by the mujahidin near Konduz airport, on January 10, the agency said.

BANGLADESH

Ershad Continues Dialogue With Political Parties

BK030945 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad held further talks as part of his parley with political leaders to reach a consensus on important national issues. The parties which met the president at Banga Bhavan last night are Hindu Oikya Front, People's Democratic Party, and Jatiya Ullema dal.

The Bangladesh Hindu Oikya Front led by Manindranath Sarkar discussed with President Ershad many important national issues. They said presidential and parliamentary elections should be held on the same day.

They demanded open politics without any delay. Regarding upazila [subdistrict] elections, they suggested shifting of the dates. They also demanded a proper solution to the problem arising out of the enemies and vested property.

A 6-member team of the People's Democratic Party headed by its secretary general, Mr M.A. Hannan, demanded holding of presidential and parliamentary polls on the same day and open politics as soon as possible.

On Upazila election, they said it has already generated great enthusiasm among the people and the polls should be held on schedule. The party sought clarifications from the president as to the position of the chairman of upazila with regard to Parliament which the president has just categorically stated that the chairman of upazila parishad will have no role in the parliament. The president further stated that the members of the Jatiya Sangsak [Parliament] will be elected directly by the people, and they will enjoy an elevanted higher position.

Bangladesh Jatiya Ulema Dal led by Maulana (Mohsin Khan) said [words indistinct] presidential and parliamentary polls should be held on the same day. They demanded open politics as soon as possible.

Regarding upazila polls, they stressed that it must held on schedule. They said this is the first time in the history of the country that the elected representatives will head and preside over the local bodies meetings. The party demanded the formation of an Islamic advisory council.

The president was assisted by his special assistant, Mr A.R. Yusuf: the home minister, Major General Abdul Manan Siddique: the establishment minister, Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury: and the general staff to chief martial law administrator, Major General N.A. Chisty.

Musavi Responds to Iraqi Bombing 'Threat'
GF030820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Zionist Iraqi regime yesterday interrupted its regular radio program and announced that it will again shell Iranian residential areas. Following this threat, our country's prime minister today issued a statement and announced the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this connection. The text of the prime minister's statement follows.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With the awakening of the Iraqi Muslim and oppressed nation and the expansion of the freedom-seeking movement throughout this country, particulary in northern Iraq, on one hand, and the constant victories of the Islamic combatants in the fronts of the imposed war, on the other hand, and the destruction of the economic, political, military, and security foundations of the regime ruling Iraq, this regime has decided to launch another adventure which is a new sign of the hopelessness of its leaders and other responsible authorities. They have lost all hope of the continuation of their political life. The Saddam regime, in resorting to the baseless propaganda that Islamic combatants have shelled Iraqi residential areas, have threatened that some of our cities will be shelled during the next 3 days. [as heard] The most interesting thing is that this threat has been issued simultaneously with the visit to Iraq by the U.S. assistant secretary of state.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran draws the attention of the world public opinion, international organizations, and progressive forces of the people in the world to the following points.

From the very first day that our Muslim homeland, Iran, became the target of Iraqi air, naval, and land forces, under the direct orders of the United States, and our prosperous, fully populated, and well-known cities like Khorramshahr, Qasr-e Shirin, and Hoveyzeh, and tens of other cities and villages were leveled, the Islamic combatants have not fired a single shot toward the Iraqi cities and only engaged in heroic battles in unequal conditions. While Saddam's Army was directly equipped with arms, ammunition, and manpower by the world oppressors, particularly the United States and its allies — arms and ammunition worth billion of dollars — and the latest war materiel flooded Iraq during the past 3 years via the Port of 'Aqaba with the support of the Zionist regime or through other routes — and while Army units of the allies of the United States like Jordan and Egypt were placed at the disposal of the Iraqi regime, the Islamic combatants without any help from anywhere, except the aid of God Almighty and the heroic efforts of the people of Iran, went about defending Iran, Islam, and the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

The Iranian nation and the Islamic combatants have several times through various means announced to the world that Iran and the Islamic Revolution of Iran will never bow to the conditions which the United States and Israel and, on the whole, the world oppressors have created in the region through their puppet Saddam. The imposed war will end only after the total withdrawal from the Islamic country of Iran, payment for heavy damages which have been inflicted on our people, and punishment of the aggressor. Peace will never return to the Middle East unless all the Western intervening forces have been withdrawn from the Middle East and all the resources and capabilities of the region have been restored to the people of the region, who are their true owners. Unless these conditions are met, the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to remain on the side of the oppressed and on the side of all the progressive Arab forces who seek the restoration of the rights of the Arab nation and the rights of the Palestinians. It is for these reasons that the Islamic Republic has opened its arms to the Muslim forces of the region, especially the revolutionary and combatant forces of Iraq, and is now acting as host to hundreds of thousands of refugees and tens of thousands of Arab soldiers, who either have fallen into the hands of Islamic combatants of Iran as prisoners of war or who have taken refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also, it is for this reason that the Islamic Republic has abstained from inflicting damage on Iraq's cities.

All international organizations, world bodies, and free and independent correspondents, who are open-minded, can visit Iranian and Iraqi cities to see for themselves which countries' residential areas have been made the targets of missiles and air attacks, and which country has abided by the tenets of human rights. To cite an example, Basra City, which is only 13 (?km) from the front of the Islamic combatants, has never been subjected to nightly blackouts and its residents go about their daily lives in complete peace and security. However, their Iranian brothers in Abadan and Ahvaz and other border cities of Iran, which are tens of km away from the Saddamist Army forces, are not secure from missile attacks which are made at the behest of the world oppressors.

We hereby declare that the patience of the Islamic Republic has limits. We inform all our brothers and sisters in Iraq, who in reality are with us in the fight against the puppet Zionist Saddam regime, that if the latest threat issued by Saddam is carried out, all industrial centers of Iraq will become targets for the Islamic combatants. Therefore, we ask that our Iraqi brethren and foreign workers and experts keep away from these industrial targets and not go near them and, of course, the Arab Muslim revolutionaries will carry out their duties under this condition.

Just as we have declared on several occasions, we will implement our final decision at the warfronts. The Islamic combatants, in face of every new adventure, will create a new epic. We sincerely believe that this war is in the defense of Islam, in defense of the oppressed. We, with the strength which comes from our faith in God Almighty, in the face of the forces backed by the United States and the Zionists, will defend the rights of our own nation and all the Muslim nations of the world. This holy defense will continue until the victory of nations over the system of atheism, heresy, and polytheism. We warn the 'Alfaqi Saddam regime that every new criminal adventure will soon result in our combatants destroying the ranks of the enemies of Islam and the enemies of the nations of Iran and Iraq. Our combatants are stronger than the enemy and will inflict shattering blows on them even if they hide behind their huge trenches and barbed wires. We have the means and determination to deploy our guns at places where the sound of artillery shells being fired will shake the foundations of the palaces in Baghdad.

All the officials of the Islamic Republic throughout the world have been instructed to draw the attention of the people of the world to the bloody plans which the United States has drawn up for the Middle East and against world peace. They should pose these questions to the world: What vital interests does the United States have in the Persian Gulf? Do Iran and all the Islamic countries of the region, including the nations of Iraq and Palestine, have no rights in their own lands? Must they live in pain and distress under the supervision of the regimes which have been set up under the intelligence, security, and military umbrella of the United States?

In conclusion, once again, we warn the United States, its active allies in the Middle East, and their servant Saddam that the revolution will not bow to the threats of the world oppressors.

Movements and campaigns continue. The wisest policy under these circumstances is to accept the reality of revolution in the region and accept the decisions of the nations. As we have already stressed, if Saddam's adventures, which are being hatched by the world oppressors, are not stopped, Iran will resort to any available means to end these adventures. Every blow inflicted on us will be countered with a stronger blow, a devastating blow to the Zionist Saddam regime.

"Victory comes only from Almighty God." [Koranic verse]

[Signed] Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

President Warns Iraq of 'Severe Revenge'
LD031100 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 3, IRNA — The Islamic Republic will firmly retaliate against any future Iraqi attack against Iranian civilian areas, President 'Ali Khamene'i said today.

Speaking in this week's Friday prayers, the president denied Iraqi allegations that Iran had attacked Iraqi towns and said they were lies in order to justify threats of attacking Iranian cities.

"I firmly announce in this holy place of Friday prayers that if the Iraqis go insane and carry out their threats, this time our nation will take severe revenge from the criminals," he said.

The president also said that the Islamic Republic had reached the conclusion that it should bring the war to a victorious end "as soon as possible" and called on the people to be prepared to "speak their last words," to the "decaying Iraqi regime."

The president's strong words followed last night's warnings by Prime Minister Musavi that the Islamic Republic would attack Iraqi economic centres if Iranian civilian areas were attacked. Mr Musavi said if Iraqi threats were realised, foreign and Iraqi workers should stay away from economic installations.

Iranian leaders had previously warned that frequent Iraqi attacks against civilians in Iran would not be tolerated for ever.

President Khamene'i said the Islamic Republic had not fired even one artillery shell on Iraqi cities ever since the Iraqi aggression 40 months ago because the Islamic Republic was not fighting the Iraqi Muslim people but rather it was fighting the Iraqi regime.

"During these 40 months, our people have upheld principles of morality in their fight. We did not agree to respond to crimes other than to the criminal. This nation cannot sit back and allow so many aggressions... with the support of the big powers and with the sneer of the international [word indistinct]," the president said.

"We will bring an end to this war with complete victory despite the desire of the United States, and the firm will and determination of this nation will guarantee our victory."

Air Force Chief: Iraq Deficient in Manpower
GF021744 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Mashhad, Feb. 2, IRNA — Colonel Hushang Seddiq, the commander of the Islamic Republic Air Force, arrived here today, accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam Gharavi, in charge of the ideological political department of the Air Force, and a number of martyrs families of the Iranian Air Force to participate in the ten day-dawn ceremonies here.

In a brief interview with IRNA, Colonel Seddiq said that with the grace of the Almighty, the war will end with the victory of the Islamic combatants since Iraq lacked sufficient resources to confront the Islamic combatants. Iraqi regime is particularly deficient in manpower, he said.

Commenting on the achievement of the Air Force, he said that during the last five years the Air Force personnel successfully managed to maintain and repair its jet fighters after the ousting of foreign advisors from Iran, and since then no fighters or spare parts have been imported from abroad.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,623
LD021745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,623 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued sporadically on most of the operational fronts of Piranshah, Sar Dasht, and Marivan. Continuing to carry out defensive measures in their positions and opening fire on enemy positions, assembly points, and supply routes, the combatants of Islam destroyed one truck of the Iraqi forces in the Piranshah region and killed or wounded more than 50 Saddamist forces of blasphemy in this region. In the Marivan region, they stopped the Saddamist forces' movements and traffic, pounded part of their positions, and killed a number of their servicemen.

Exchanges of fire also continued periodically between our forces and the aggressive enemy on the country's western and southern operational fronts. On every front, the victorious combatants of Islam continue to consolidate and guard their defensive positions. They directed periodic heavy weapons fire on the Iraqi forces' frontline and artillery positions, supply and communication lines, and penetration routes. By dispatching patrol groups with the aim of inflicting blows at the enemy's backup and patrol forces, they inflicted losses and casualties on them.

On the western fronts, they destroyed several light and heavy vehicles and several foxholes and slit trenches of the Iraqi forces together with their crews.

On the southern fronts, our forces set fire to parts of the enemy's light and heavy weapons positions and completely destroyed two enemy observation trenches and the guards in them.

In a series of exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of Islam returned fire on enemy positions and fortifications on the other side of the Arvand Rud, destroyed more than 17 foxholes, slit trenches, and observation posts of the Saddamist forces, put one of their trucks out of action,and killed or wounded about 30 enemy servicemen.

The Saddamist mercenaries' long-range fire on the city of Abadan yesterday caused some losses and damaged more than six houses.

Majlis Speaker, Turkish Envoy Discuss Kordestan
GF011715 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text]Tehran, Feb. 1 IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the new Turkish ambassador to Tehran Tuesday that the Islamic Republic has given priority in its relations to Islamic and neighbouring countries, further saying this was a fixed policy in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic regarding its foreign relations.

He said also that Iran was adamantly opposed to other countries interfering in its and regions internal affairs.

Speaking on the issue of Kordestan, Rafsanjani said that even under the most critical situation Iran did not pledge autonomy to those who were acting wickedly in that region.

Rafsanjani then noted that Saddam who was fighting against Talebani for some period of time, had now resorted to blackmail. He said Saddam was ready to open the way for foreigners in the region, adding that we are very careful so that they (foreigners) would not create turmoil in the Kordestan region. Of course, added he, the grounds of deprivation there, must be uprooted to which end, he said, we have achieved some successes.

The Majlis speaker concluded by saying that we should not let any superpower dare interfere in our affairs, adding that struggles of Muslim Afghans and Lebanese against the Soviet Union, the U.S. and France could be a very good lesson for the people of the world. With the grace of God, said the Majlis speaker, we are stronger than them and will act more decisively.

The Turkish ambassador, Ismet Birsel, called for exchanging of views on regional and international issues as well as cooperation in these fields. He also expressed pleasure over his presence in Iran and said that he considered the Islamic Republic as his own hometown. He said that we are Muslims acting along the lines of shared interests.

Free Voice of Iran Cites Clashes in Kordestan
GF021820 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Free Voice of Iran correspondent, quoting Kurdish sources, reports that armed Kurdish fighters attacked revolution guards this week, killing 24. The clashes took place in the Sar Dasht region. Our correspondent says that a revolution guard camp at (?Sar Tappeh) was also hit by Kurdish fighters and in this attack many occupationist revolution guards of the Khomeyni regime were either killed and wounded. In these attacks, a quantity of arms were also captured by the Kurdish fighters who destroyed three [word indistinct] of the Khomeyni forces.

Speaker Addresses Foreign Guests at Majlis Session
LD021542 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Address by Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani at 2 February Majlis open session attended by foreign guests]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The achievements of the Islamic Revolution of Iran during the past 5 years have led to the eradication of much superstition in the minds of the people of the world, have negated many myths, and have revealed important facts which I will now outline in the few minutes I have to talk to our guests. I will discuss our hopes for the future in this respect so that you, in turn, can discuss themwith the people of your 80 countries when you return home.

In our evaluations, we consider the most important achievement of this revolution to be the creation of the state of awareness in the Islamic nations of the world, which has led to the revelation of the true face of some of the governments and leaders of Islamic countries who have claimed to be revolutionary. This has thus led to the popular understanding of the nature of such regimes. During the course of the revolution, it has become clear that if nations decide to obtain their rights and reach their holy goals then the biggest problems the oppressive powers of the world may create for them can be surmounted and eliminated.

The nations have come to realize today that many of the slogans aired by the nationalists in their countries, or by those claiming to be revolutionaries around the world, or the slogans of supposed aid aired by the West for some backward countries are all lies. The revelation of the goals of the inauspicious triangle of the Eastern and Western oppression and the reaction — using the guise of support for people as a means of battling revolutions in some countries — is a great asset for the growth of the Islamic revolutionary movements.

The Islamic Revolution of Iran has proved that the idea that no revolution can succeed without the support of one of the big powers is just a myth and that even if the two superpowers and their agents oppose it or even resort to war, they can be blocked by the revolution. A nation can obtain its rights alone, even if no government in the world supports it. This is a lesson currently being taught by Islamic nations in Tunisia, Morocco, and many other places, showing their faith in this important principle.

Our major message is that those who are following the footsteps of the perditioned shah of Iran will have the destiny of that family and that shah. Nations following the way of Islam in the manner of the Iranian nation can have a destiny similar to that of our nation and revolution. Nations should pressure governments to have both the Islamic governments and nations make investments in Afghanistan, Lebanon, occupied Palestine, and other usurped Islamic regions; make sacrifices; concentrate all the wealth, power, and their strategically important markets to attaining Islamic ideals in order to enliven Islam yet again in today's world, which is a world of knowledge and thirsty for justice. This would enable it [as heard] to assume its leadership role in the world. Our glorious leader is certainly ready to assume this role for other Islamic countries and will be able to offer you Muslim people the same guidance he has given us.

God willing, we hope that by the time you come to Iran again we will have ended this war victoriously and can go together on pilgrimages to Najaf and Karbala and participate in ceremonies with the Iraqi people.

Ministry Spokesman on Saudi Prince's Remarks

GF030638 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry has commented on the statement by the Saudi crown prince, in which he asked the United States not to sell military spare parts to Iran. The spokesman said: This statement, which coincided with the claims by the Jerusalem-usurping entity on the sale of arms to Iran, proves that full coordination exists between the United States, world Zionism, and reactionism in the region against the blessed Islamic Revolution.

The spokesman noted that reactionary regimes in the region are a tool to implement various plans to safeguard the security of the Jerusalem-usurping entity. He emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran considers the Jerusalem-usurping entity the most inveterate foe of Islam and Muslims and is trying with all its means to bring about the struggle to eliminate this cancerous tumor.

Referring to the Jerusalem liberation maneuvers which will be carried out between 8-11 February, the spokesman said: Consternation is griping the Jerusalem-usurping entity and its reactionary protectors in the region because of these maneuvers and because of the victories the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are achieving on the front of the war which the regime ruling in Iraq has imposed on the Islamic Republic. By spreading rumors, they are trying to limit the influence of anti-Zionist movements among the ranks of Muslims, particularly Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims.

British Minister's Gulf Tour Viewed

GF301946 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] One of the ironies of this world is when more than 500 million people are waiting an unknown fate at the hands of the big powers because of poverty and deprivation, some Gulf regimes spend billions of dollars on stocking their arsenals with U.S., German, French, and British arms.

The visit of Michael Heseltine, minister of the British hostility, to some Gulf states is within this dreadful course; itbegan with Saudi Arabia. This visit is of great importance to the British side, which looks at it with concern — as it was described by Thatcher yesterday. Why shouldn't the British Administration and all the arrogant circles be concerned about such visits, which normally result in billions of dollars, in arms purchases, particularly since those circles are suffering from inflation, unemployment, economic slump, and a reduction in exchange rate of their currency in comparison with the U.S. dollar.

Against whom will all those weapons be used? Will they be used against the United States or against the Zionist enemy who is the direct ally of the U.S. Administration, or will they be used against the Soviets who do not dare to advance one inch after the Afghan experience has taught them the hard lesson? Against whom will those weapons be directed? Certainly, the answer they give will always be untrue, false, and far from the fact that the first and last goal of this arms race is to fill the pockets of the capitalist beneficiaries who are merchants of death and blood, to reduce the economic crisis of the arrogant government, and to add a new form of agentry to the foreigners.

25 More Iranians Deported From Kuwait

LD312334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Following the hostile measures taken by the Kuwaiti Government against Iranians residing in that country, during the past 3 days, 25 other Iranians residing in Kuwait have been deported from that country and have arrived by sea to Bushehr.

Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Visits

LD291718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] The Bulgarian minister of foreign trade arrived in Tehran this afternoon. He was welcomed by Iranian Minister of Commerce Abedi-Ja'fari. The Bulgarian minister of foreign trade, in an interview with our correspondent, said: Trade between the two countries has increased during recent years and will possibly increase to twice the present volume in future. He described the relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Bulgaria during 1983 as satisfactory.

First Round of Talks

LD302227 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] The first round of discussions between the Bulgarian economic-commercial delegation, led by that country's minister of foreign trade, and officials of Iran's Ministry of Commerce were held this morning. During the meeting, Commerce Minister Abedi-Ja'fari explained Iran's policies on foreign trade, which are based on mutual respect and friendship with different countries of the world. He expressed hope that commercial relations and the exchange of goods between Iran and Bulgaria will continue to expand in the interests of both countries.

The Bulgarian minister said: The Bulgarian Government and nation have always respected the Iranian nation and regard the Islamic Revolution of Iran as a progressive and glorious revolution. The minister expressed his country's readiness for discussions on the expansion of economic relations between the two countries and exporting to Iran the items needed by that country such as protein substances, dried milk for animal feed, tobacco and cigarettes, light and heavy industrial products, glassware, timber, fertilizers, and chemicals. He also offered proposals about cooperation in the exchange of technology [short break in transmission] construction of dams, irrigation projects, construction of industrial plans, and so on. He said Bulgaria is willing to purchase nonoil items from Iran.

At the end of today's discussions, Bulgaria's minister of foreign trade invited Iran's minister of commerce to visit Bulgaria to inspect its industrial progress.

Meeting With Agriculture Minister

GF311655 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Tehran, Jan. 31, IRNA — The visiting Bulgarian minister of foreign trade, Khristo Khristof, in a meeting here this morning with the minister of agriculture, 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, expressed willingness of his country to further expand mutual relations especially in the field of heavy industries, agriculture, power supply, communications, transport and machineries.

The Bulgarian minister who arrived here last Sunday heading an economic and trade delegation, added that both countries enjoyed a long standing mutual relationship.

The Iranian minister of agriculture referring to the fifth anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, said that Iran and Bulgaria have had extensive cooperation in various fields. He further added that both countries would make use of each others experience in the fields of agriculture and food industries.

Referring to the top priority given to improvement of the agricultural sector in the development programmes of the Islamic Republic, Zali said that to this end Iran was interested in expanding its agricultural cooperation with Bulgaria. He told the visiting Bulgarian official that Iran was ready to increase its exports of caviar, dates, hides and other items to Bulgaria.

Meeting With Velayati

LD011250 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb.1, IRNA — The visiting Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Trade Khristo Khristof met and conferred with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Tuesday. The expansion of two countries relations in the technical as well as trade, economics and transportation were discussed during the meeting.

In the meeting also foreign trade minister of Bulgaria announced the upcoming visit of Bulgaria's foreign minister to Iran, and Dr. Velayati expressed the hope that mutual expansion of ties between the two countires would proceed smoothly to the benefit of the both parties.

In another development, the Bulgarian minister called on Iranian Minister of Roads and Transportation Hadinezhad-Hoseyniyan Tuesday. During the meeting the Iranian minister said that despite all plots against the Islamic Revolution, Islamic Republic has taken effective steps in economic development, further saying that large projects were being implemented in various parts of the country.

The Bulgarian foreign trade minister also expressed the hope that his country could share its experience in the field of transportation with Iran.

He also pointed to his country's previous undertakings in road construction, railways, and transportation.

The Iranian minister responding said that Iran is now self-sufficient in road construction, saying too that other fields of cooperation would be studied.

Mr. Khristof and accompanying delegation also paid homage to the martyrs of Islamic Revolution at Behesht-e Zahra cemetery on Tuesday.

The Bulgarian minister arrived in Tehran last Sunday heading an economic and trade delegation.

Session With Musavi

LD012026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The Bulgarian minister of foreign trade this afternoon met Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi. During the meeting, the Bulgerian minister noted the expanding relations between the two countries in various spheres of the economy and expressed the hope for further expansion of such ties. He said: We completely understand the Islamic Revolution which is a popular and anti-imperialist revolution and our close ties during the past 5 years show this interest and understanding.

Mr Musavi, in a speech which followed, noted the fundamental changes in trade relations following the victory of the Islamic Revolution, especially in relation to the anti-oppression countries and the Third World: When one refers to struggle,then the countries who intend to carry out a struggle in this respect must establish a decisive position. Currently, we can see the obvious

hand of the United States in Lebanon, Iraq, and many of the reactionary countries, and in our opinion, such (?inauspicious) moves should be seriously countered.

2 February Departure

LD021218 Tehran IRNA in English 1039 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 2, IRNA — The Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Khirstov left Tehran this morning following a five-day visit with Iranian economic and political officials.

Khristov who was heading the Bulgarian delegation to Iran, speaking to reporters before his departure said that talks with the Iranian officials were beneficial and hoped that in the light of interest of Iran and Bulgaria mutual relations would expand further.

As a result of talks with the Iranian officials, he said, the future policy of trade relations was formulated.

He also told reporters that the post-revolutionary progress in Iran has been significant and also expressed his congratulations on the 5th anniversary of the victory of February '79 Islamic revolution.

The Iranian Minister of Commerce, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, who was at the airport to see his Bulgarian counterpart off, speaking about the result of the visit of the Bulgarian delegation, said that negotiations were held on expansion of trade relations. Agreements were reached on export of non-oil goods such as caviar and dates to Bulgaria, Ja'fari added.

Furthermore, the Iranian commerce minister added, talks were held on purchase of cheese, meat and cigarettes from Bulgaria as well as cooperation in the field of transport.

Final talks on these issues would be held during the visit to Bulgaria of the Iranian Minister of Agriculture, 'Abbas 'Ali Zali, next month. Overall, the minister of commerce referred to talks as productive.

The visit of the Bulgarian delegation was the fourth in post-revolutionary period. The Bulgarian foreign trade minister during his stay in Tehran held talks with prime minister, agriculture minister and minister of roads and transportation.

The volume of trade between Iran and Bulgaria in 1983 amounted to 400 million dollars, registering a balance of trade between the two countries.

Reportage on Meetings With GDR Trade Officials

Industry Minister

LD011325 Tehran IRNA in English 1057 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 1 IRNA — Iran-German Democratic Republic (GDR) relations should be based on mutual cooperation, Iranian industry minister, Mostafa Hashemi, told visiting GDR foreign trade officials in a meeting here Tuesday afternoon.

Also discussed in the meeting was the expansion of Iran-GDR industrial-economic relations.

The GDR deputy foreign trade official, Claus Gik also conveyed the message from his country's chemical industry minister, inviting Mr. Hashemi to visit his country for follow up talks on a letter of understanding signed last year with his country. The letter of understanding had called for the boosting of mutual trade exchanges by 25 percent.

The GDR minister expressed his country's readiness to expand relations with the Islamic Republic in the fields of elastic, spinning, instrumental machines, hydrolic press cutting instrument, manufacturing and so on.

Present in the meeting also was that country's machine manufacturing deputy minister and the GDR's ambassador to Iran.

Foreign Minister

LD012016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The GDR deputy foreign trade minister met and conferred with our country's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Velayati, this afternoon. In the course of this meeting, the GDR deputy foreign trade minister expressed delight with the expansion of relations between the two countries, with the doubling of oil sales to the GDR and the export of nonpetroleum products to this country. Also, in the course of this meeting, Mr Velayati repeated his invitation to the GDR foreign minister to visit Iran.

Signing of Memorandum

LD021551 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The GDR trade and economic delegation headed by the deputy foreign trade minister has left Tehran after a 1-week visit. It left the city this afternoon for Berlin after holding discussions with officials of the Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Foreign Affairs, and Heavy Industries as well as a number of government organizations. A memorandum of understanding on trade ties was signed. It expresses the hope that commercial ties between Iran and the GDR will expand.

According to the same report, in order to expand the volume of trade between the two countries, the GDR has undertaken to purchase a minimum of $50 million worth of nonoil goods from Iran during 1984.

Khamene'i Discusses Success of Revolution

LD302235 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] On the eve of the fifth anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, a group of the families of Tehran's martyrs, parents of Christian martyrs, and the reserve forces of the Tabriz Islamic Revolution Committee this morning met with President Khamene'i.

During this meeting, which was also attended by Majlis deputies for Tabriz, the president referred to the coordination existing among the forces throughout the country: The unity of expression between all classes, various social groups, and those speaking different languages and coming from different tribes in our country is the biggest secret of the victory of our revolution. The policymakers of the world still do not understand how a revolution which was attacked by everybody could succeed without any help from anybody, solely through the resistance of its people, or that while being isolated and abandoned, our nation overcame a power that had all facilities at its disposal. That is still unclear to the analysts of the world.

Referring to the realization of the aims of the Islamic Revolution and the neutralization of the leftist plots to create rifts and dissent among various tribes in Iran, the president said: Those who, with eye-catching names [as heard], by spending enormous sums and manipulating political events intended to make Azarbayjan a place of unrest, received such a blow from the people of Azarbayjan that all their plots were foiled. All the various classes and you, the Islamic Revolution Committees, played the biggest role in foiling that plot. On that day, the people of Tabriz were supposedly faced with a local wave of opposition, but, in fact, they were fighting against an extensive American plot. On that day, all those who intended to take their revenge from the revolution by any means possible gathered under the same banner, in order to create chaos. But thanks to the people's alertness and wisdom, all plots were foiled and all the hopes of the counterrevolution were shattered.

Stressing the affiliation of the counterrevolution with world conspiracy machinery, the president said: Never be certain that there are no more plots awaiting this revolution. You should always remain alert. You have dealt the enemy a heavy blow, but you should constantly be prepared to deal the enemy another blow.

Montazeri Appoints University Jihad Supervisor

LD021405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Feb 84

[2 February decree issued by Ayatollah Montazeri]

[Text] In His exalted name. His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr Seyyed Hadi Khamene'i, may his excellent work continue: Following the request to set up a cultural revolution headquarters, it is essential that Your Excellency should undertake the responsibility for supervising the intellectual and political activities of the Central Council of the University Jihad. Just as you took care of the cultural revolution headquarters, you should strive to strengthen the new institution of the University Jihad on the level of all universities and higher educational centers in accordance with the divine values of the Islamic Revolution. While encouraging and supporting the committed brother and sister members of the University Jihads in their sacred work, you should remind them not to exceed their lawful limits.

God Almighty, with the cooperation of the cultural revolution headquarters and the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education and thanks to the loftiness of purpose and efforts shown by Your Excellency, it is hoped that this institution, which has risen from the soul of the revolution, will be able to carry out its revolutionary responsibility in the universities in the best possible manner.

2 February 1984

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri

Tudeh Verdicts To Be Announced 'Later'

GF021650 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 2, IRNA — Hojjat ol-Eslam Moqtadai, a member and the spokesman of the high judicial council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, outlined the activities of the council over the past week in a press conference here today.

Among other things Moqtadai referred to the cases of the group of 13 members of the clandestine military wing of the dissolved Tudeh Party saying that some of the verdicts had been confirmed by an elected board and would be announced by the military tribunal of the Islamic revolution later.

NVOI Assails Suppression of Ethnic Culture

TA312019 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Islamic Government Is Foe of National Culture of Our Homeland's Peoples"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The resolution of the 18th Plenum of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, whose contents were brought to the attention of the dear compatriots in our previous broadcasts, contained some important points. One of the points reiterated in this very resolution is mutual respect for the faiths, customs, traditions, national culture, and languages of all peoples and ethnic minorities. Our talk, too, is about the national culture and languages of the peoples and ethnic minorities of our homeland.

In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well, it has been stipulated that the use of local and ethnic languages in the press and the mass media, and the teaching of their literature alongside the Persian language is free. For many years, our homelands's ethnic minorities have been exposed to the onslaught and attack by the ruling classes and have [illegible]ed of the use of their national languages and of the [illegible] to promote and expand their culture and literature. It was expected that as a result of our nation's glorious revolution, these minorities, by taking advantage of the rights that the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran has granted them, would obtain a favorable opportunity and the potential to develop their specific languages, literature, and culture. However, the regime's leaders ignored this issue also and by violating the Constitution not only eliminated any chances in this connection and banned the press of those same ethnic minorities, but by dragging the Kurdish people in the dust and blood they proved their inherent hostility toward the ethnic rights of our peoples. This is being done amid conditions in which the reactionary, superstitious, and ignorance-

nurturing government has with utmost impudence nullified all the joint gains of the Iranian people's culture and civilization and is striving to replace them with a medieval way of thinking.

The government of the reactionary clergy has made the eradication of culture and the revival of the rejected and obsolete traditions and customs of the era of barbarism an inseparable part of its antipeople policy. Amid all this, the situation of ethnic minorities who have been constantly subjected to national and cultural oppression and to other various discriminations is even more deplorable.

The Kurdish people have been cruelly dragged in fire and blood under the charge that they were striving to gain their ethnic, cultural, economic, and political rights. The people of Azarbayjan, as well as the Baluchi and Turkmen peoples, have been deprived of all their ethnic privileges.

By applying the term "Islamic nation" to all the peoples of Iran and to classes of contradictory interests, the Islamic Government is hypocritically endeavoring to ignore and to gloss over all the people's national and cultural demands. The slogan "Islamic nation" has been transformed into a dastardly weapon in the hands of the government for violating the rights of our homeland's peoples and for the alleged legitimate exploitation of working people by exploiting classes. It is evident that ethnic minorities, who are attached to their language, culture, and literature and who,at the same time, are the most reliable guardians of the independence, freedom, and the common culture of our homeland's peoples will under no circumstances forego the realization of their rights despite all the conspiracies and deceitful acts of the Islamic Government.

Our homeland's ethnic minorities justly believe that the language, literature, and culture of each one of them, as any other language, literature, and culture, has an indisputable right to life. The fact that the government has made the teaching and studying of foreign languages, such as Arabic, English, and so forth, compulsory for the peoples of Kordestan, Azarbayjan, and others, and has simultaneously banned or made impossible education in the mother language, can under no circumstances be justified.

It is in view of this fact that in the resolution of the 18th Plenum of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, mutual respect for the national culture and languages of all peoples and ethnic minorities has been stipulated with utmost emphasis.

Evidently, as experience and life have shown, achievement of this goal is not possible without the joint struggle of these peoples and ethnic minorities against the injustices of the reactionary and ignorance-nurturing leaders of the Islamic Government. For this reason, the unity of all peoples in defending independence, freedom, and social justice; in attaining their rights; and in combating tyranny, terror, and repression is of the utmost importance in the current stage of our nation's struggles.

Free Voice of Iran on Funding of Amal Group

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[Text] The Khomeyni region has so far paid millions of dollars to the Amal organization in Lebanon. According to our correspondent, Akhond Mohammad Hoseyn Fazlollah, military commander of the Iranian branch of the Amal organisation in Iran, during his last visit to Iran received about $5 million for expansion of terrorist actions of the Iranian group in the Amal organization. Our correspondent says that this sum was paid from the special terrorist fund held by Sheykh Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri and the special budget allocation for terrorism.